

### Renovations & Additions to Historic Houses

If you are the owner of an historic house, it should be relatively easy for you to tell the style of your house. You may already know the year it was built. It is advisable to seek the services of an architect familiar with traditional architecture to help guide you through major renovations or additions. As you proceed through design, make sure that your architect remains sensitive to neighborhood and architectural patterns.

New additions to nineteenth- and early-twentieth-century houses should typically be designed as secondary elements or wings that preserve the integrity of the Main Body of the original house. Additions should never be bigger than the house itself or too wide or you'll wind up with a "McMansion" where the proportions and scale of the traditional house are lost and the house feels too big or over-scaled for its setting within the neighborhood. Wings should be set back from the front

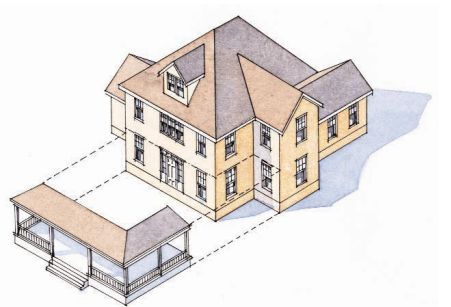
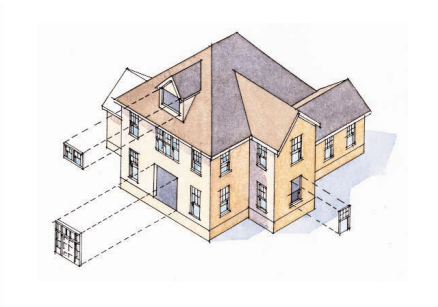
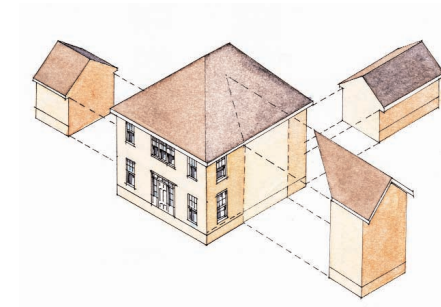
facade of the house a distance no less than half the width of the wing (see page C-20). As shown in the photos at right and below, a one-story addition to a two-story house is very common.

Renovations to nineteenth- and early-twentieth-century houses may include the replacement of windows; roofing materials; reconstruction of soffits, gutters, and fascias; dormers; chimneys; and restoration or replacement of damaged or previously demolished porches.

In general, new replacement windows should respect the original window light pattern, and should have the same, or similar, profile (trim dimensions) as the existing windows. Whenever possible, repair or replacement of roof materials should be performed with like materials. When construction costs prohibit this, a less expensive material of similar color and look is encouraged.



A one-story addition on a Norfolk Classical Revival house



A two-story Main Body with one-story additions on both sides (Norfolk Colonial Revival)



A one-and-one-half-story addition (Norfolk Coastal Cottage)



A two-story addition creating a four-bay composition (Norfolk Colonial Revival)



A one-story addition (Norfolk European Romantic)



A one-and-one-half-story addition providing a garage with living space above (Norfolk Colonial Revival)



A two-story addition (Norfolk Coastal Cottage)